

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A multilayer respiring cheese packaging laminate comprising a first outer layer having a thickness of from about 40 gauge to about 80 gauge comprising an oriented polyamide; a second layer comprising an adhesive; a third layer comprising an oriented polypropylene and a fourth sealant layer comprising a polyethylene copolymer, wherein said first outer layer is adhered directly to said second layer and said second layer is adhered directly to said third layer and said third layer is adhered directly to said fourth layer.

2. (original) The multilayer respiring cheese packaging laminate according to claim 1 wherein the adhesive is polyethylene.

3. (original) The multilayer respiring cheese packaging laminate according to claim 1 wherein the adhesive is polyurethane.

4. (canceled)

5. (original) The multilayer respiring cheese packaging laminate according to claim 1 wherein the oriented polyamide is oriented poly (ε-caprolactam).

6. (original) The multilayer respiring cheese packaging laminate according to claim 1 wherein the oriented polyamide is a blend of two or more oriented polyamides.

7. (original) The multilayer respiring cheese packaging laminate according to claim 1 wherein the oriented polyamide is oriented poly (hexamethylene adipamide).

8. (original) The multilayer respiring cheese packaging laminate according to claim 1 wherein the first outer layer has a thickness of from about 48 gauge to about 60 gauge.

9. (original) The multilayer respiring cheese packaging laminate according to claim 5 wherein the oriented poly (ε-caprolactam) has a thickness of 60 gauge.

10. (original) The multilayer respiring cheese packaging laminate according to claim 5 wherein the oriented poly (ϵ -caprolactam) has a thickness of 60 gauge.

11. (original) The multilayer respiring cheese packaging laminate according to claim 2 wherein the polyethylene is low density polyethylene.

12. (original) The multilayer respiring cheese packaging laminate according to claim 1 wherein the polyethylene copolymer of the fourth sealant layer is ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer.

13. (original) The multilayer respiring cheese packaging laminate according to claim 1 wherein the respiring cheese is a swiss-type cheese.

14. (original) The multilayer respiring cheese packaging laminate according to claim 1 wherein the polyamide is biaxially oriented.

15. (original) The multilayer respiring cheese packaging laminate according to claim 1 wherein the polypropylene is biaxially oriented.

16. (original) The multilayer respiring cheese packaging laminate according to claim 1 wherein the laminate has an O₂ permeability rate from about 2.5 cm³ per 100 in²/24 hours at room temperature and 1 atmosphere to about 5 cm³ per 100 in²/24 hours at room temperature and 1 atmosphere.

17. (original) The multilayer respiring cheese packaging laminate according to claim 1 wherein the laminate has a CO₂ permeability rate from about 10 cm³ per 100 in²/24 hrs. at room temperature and 1 atmosphere to about 20 cm³ per 100 in²/24 hrs. at room temperature at 1 atmosphere.

18. (original) A multilayer respiring cheese packaging laminate having a thickness of from about 2.5 mils to about 3.5 mils comprising a first outer layer having a thickness from about

48 gauge to about 60 gauge comprising oriented poly (ϵ -caprolactam); a second layer comprising low density polyethylene, a third layer comprising oriented polypropylene; and a fourth sealant layer comprising ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer and wherein said first outer layer is adhered directly to said second layer and said second layer is adhered directly to said third layer and said third layer is adhered directly to said fourth layer and wherein said laminate has an CO_2 permeability rate from about 10 cm^3 per $100 \text{ in}^2/24$ hours at room temperature and 1 atmosphere to about 20 cm^3 per $100 \text{ in}^2/24$ hours at room temperature and 1 atmosphere and an O_2 permeability rate from about 2.5 cm^3 per $100 \text{ in}^2/24$ hours at room temperature and 1 atmosphere to about 5 cm^3 per $100 \text{ in}^2/24$ hours at room temperature and 1 atmosphere.

19. (original) A package made from the laminate of claim 1.

20. (original) A package made from the laminate of claim 18.